

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. - 32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A replication method for managing a plurality of master databases and a replica database generated from said plurality of master databases, comprising:

correlating a plurality of master database names, a name of the replica database generated from said plurality of master databases by join operations based on predetermined joining keys, joining keys used in said join operations, and timing conditions setting timings at which replications of data are performed to the replica database from the master databases, with each other to thereby generate and store replication control information;

in response to reception of a data operation request for a data operation to an operated record stored in a first one of said master databases, storing identification information of the operated record to correlate the identification information with the master database name of the first master database on which the data operation request has been operated;

determining whether a processing result of the data operation request meets the timing conditions;

when the timing conditions are met, acquiring the master database name of the first master database on which said data operation request has been operated, one of said stored joining keys corresponding to said timing conditions, and a second master database name of a second master database and the replica database name to be joined by the joining key from the replication control information;

referring to said stored ~~operation~~ identification information of the operated record to acquire the operated record subject to the data operation, said operated record belonging to the first master database on which the data operation has been made based on the data operation request;

performing a joining processing with respect to said operated record subject to the data operation and said second master database to be joined using said joining key; and

reflecting a replica database record generated by the joining processing to said replica database to implement to said replica database the data operation based on said data operation request; and

accessing the replica database in place of accessing the plurality of master databases when executing a job requiring accessing of the plurality of master databases, whereby time required for executing the job is minimized.

33. - 40. (Canceled)

41. (Currently Amended) A ~~replication process implementing a program stored in a computer readable medium for~~ managing a plurality of master databases and a replica database generated from said plurality of master databases, said program, when executed, causing a computer to carry out steps comprising:

correlating a plurality of master database names, a name of the replica database generated from said plurality of master databases by join operations based on predetermined joining keys, joining keys used in said join operations, and timing conditions setting timings at which replications of data are performed to the replica database from the master databases, with each other to thereby generate and store replication control information;

in response to reception of a data operation request for a data operation to an operated record stored in a first one of said master databases, storing identification information of the operated record to correlate the identification information with the master database name of the first master database on which the data operation request has been operated;

determining whether a processing result of the data operation request meets the timing conditions;

when the timing conditions are met, acquiring the master database name of the first master database on which said data operation request has been operated,

one of said stored joining keys corresponding to said timing conditions, and a second master database name of a second master database and the replica database name to be joined by the joining key from the replication control information;

referring to said stored operation-identification information of the operated record to acquire the operated record subject to the data operation, said operated record belonging to the first master database on which the data operation has been made based on the data operation request;

performing a joining processing with respect to said operated record subject to the data operation and said second master database to be joined using said joining key; and

reflecting a replica database record generated by the joining processing to said replica database to implement to said replica database the data operation based on said data operation request;

wherein the replica database is accessed in place of accessing the plurality of master databases when executing a job requiring accessing of the plurality of master databases, whereby time required for executing the job is minimized.

42. - 48. (Canceled)